

Rules, Procedures and Expectations

* **TRY**

- * Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings
- * Follow directions the first time they are given
- * Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak
- * Stay in your seat unless you have permission to do otherwise
- * Use technology responsibly for educational purposes
- * Remember: The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell
- * Follow all school and eighth grade rules



Materials you will need:

You will be responsible for coming to class each and every day with your *iPad*, a writing utensil (a *pencil*, a blue or black ink *pen*), a set of *colored pencils* and/or *thin markers* and a **three-ring binder with dividers** (or other organizational folder).

You should keep this handout and other class guidelines in your notebook in front of the first divider. Staying organized throughout each term will help when exam time comes in January and June.

Our class website can be found at www.mrsclarkpohlod.com. From here you will find a link to follow me on Twitter for periodic photo updates of what we have been doing in class, as well as gain access to our classroom calendar that will highlight upcoming test dates and other important information. There are also study aids, notes, video lessons and more available. All other online content needed for class will be linked from this website. The website is intended for both student and parent use.

I also highly recommend that you (and your parents) sign up for my Earth Science notifications using **Remind101**. To sign up, text **@mrsclarkp** to **(917) 746-0936** on your mobile phone or for email notifications, email mrsclarkp@mail.remind101.com.

Grading Policy:

The score you **EARN** for Earth Science each nine-week grading period will be calculated using a weighted scale.

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|-----|------------------------------------|
| 70% | Assessments (Tests & Projects) |
| 30% | Practice (Homework, Quizzes, etc.) |

You will be able to check your grades online in PowerSchool. If you have questions or concerns, please do not wait until the last day of the term to discuss them with me.

Semester exams in January and June will not be calculated into nine-week term final grades, but will be used to assist in determining competency for high school credit.

TEXT, CONTENT and OBJECTIVES:

The text for this course is Earth Science, Prentice Hall publisher, copyright 2007. This course is designed to introduce you to an array of earth science principles and ideas.

Topics covered include:

- * Organizing Principles of Earth Science
- * Earthquakes and Earth's Interior
- * Plate Tectonics and Volcanoes
- * Rock Forming Processes
- * Discerning Earth's History
- * Severe Weather
- * Oceans and Climate
- * Climate Change
- * Hydrogeology
- * Resources and Environment Challenges
- * Cosmology and Earth's Place in the Universe
- * The Sun and Other Stars

HOMEWORK, QUIZZES, ETC.:

Many of the assignments in class will be graded based on the effort you put into the assignment and on the level of completion the assignment shows. Most completed assignments will be discussed orally in class (after being checked for completion) and should be corrected by students during this time. It is recommended that students keep all assignments in their science notebook after correction, as keeping corrected assignments will be very helpful when it comes time to study for tests, quizzes, and semester exams. You should expect to have science homework at least three nights per week (this is just a guideline).

Realizing that it is sometimes difficult to get all homework assignments done due to unforeseen circumstances, late assignments will be accepted and will receive a minimum score of 60%. I do, however, reserve the right to deny acceptance of late work if a student is having a chronic issue of turning in work late. If this should occur, parents will be contacted to develop a plan of action to get work in on time.

Pretests and quizzes will be given periodically before and throughout a chapter or unit of study to help evaluate your understanding before major tests. These quizzes are meant to indicate if you need extra help with the chapter we are studying. Tutoring is available this year during PACK on passing days (typically Tuesday & Thursday). I can also be available before and after school by appointment, should it be needed.

Many assignments and quizzes will be online and you may have to access our class website or other website to complete them. It is extremely important that you come to class every day with your iPad charged and ready to work. Should you need to complete online work outside of class time and you do not have internet access at home you will need to make arrangements to stay at school, go to a friend or neighbor's, or use the local library.

You will be expected to come to class prepared to work every day. Class will always begin with vocabulary and/or a journal/bell ringer activity. Vocabulary is essential to your understanding of the science concepts we will be studying. Make sure you take time to review vocabulary regularly. All vocabulary can be found, by unit, on our class website and also using Quizlet at <http://quizlet.com/mrsclarkpohlod>.

Retakes:

Any student wishing to retake an assessment must do so within one week of the return of the graded assessment. Prior to retesting, students must work to re-learn the material, i.e. come for tutoring on a PACK Passing Day, study at home and provide evidence of work done and a parent signature, etc. Retake scores will **not** be put into Power School if the student has any missing homework assignments which led up to that assessment. Once ALL missing assignments related to the assessment have been completed and turned in, the retake score will be entered into Power School. These late/missing assignments are subject to the late work policy above.

Retakes will not be permitted on semester exams in January and June.

Absences:

It is the responsibility of the student to find out what was missed during an absence on the first day back from the absence. For *excused* absences you will typically have one day to make up assignments for every day you are absent. Therefore, if you are absent for one day, you will have one day after you return to school to turn in all make-up work. If you do not feel that this will be a sufficient amount of time to get the assignment done you will need to see me (*in advance*) and make arrangements for when the work will be handed in. If you do not see me, do not expect an extension on the due date. All assignments, and many resources, will be posted on the 8th grade Online Planner at <http://lmsplanner8.weebly.com>. Students and Parents should check this website to see what was missed and to access any necessary resources.

Additional Information:

- * All homework assignments, lab reports, etc. must be written in complete sentences unless otherwise instructed. If in doubt, write it out!
- * Not reading and following directions on daily assignments, homework, quizzes, tests, etc. may result in a deduction of points on the assignment.
- * You may contact me with questions about assignments, grades, etc. from within our course website, through PowerSchool or Twitter, or via email at angela.clarkpohlod@laingsburg.k12.mi.us. There is no reason for you to fall behind or not know how you are doing in Earth Science. Please take the time to check your grades, keep up with your assignments, and ask questions when there are things you don't understand. Your performance and your grade are your responsibility. Nobody knows better than you what you do or don't understand. Don't be afraid to become an active participant in your education. The success you will find will make the effort well worth it!